

November 21, 1997. Claim 3 has been amended to specify that the frame has at least one degree of freedom thereby making this claim consistent with the subsequent dependent claims which specify frames having multiple degrees of freedom.

In the Office Action dated April 15, 1999, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121 identifying the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Figures 1a-1c, Figures 2a-2c, Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5, Figure 6, Figures 7a-7b, one of Figures 8-31, Figure 32a-32b, and Figures 33a-33b.

The Applicants hereby elect the Species associated with Figure 24. Claims 1-11 and claims 13-18 have elements directed to that figure.

The Applicants make this election without traverse. However, the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's statement that there are no generic claims. On the contrary, at least claim 1 is a generic claim directed to each embodiment illustrated in Figures 7a through 36. Therefore, although the Applicants have elected Figure 24 to be represented by all of the claims, it should be clear that claim 1, if and when it is finally allowable, will address each embodiment illustrated in Figures 7a through 36 and the dependent claims will address the different embodiments illustrated in Figures 7a through 36. Figures 1-6 are prior art and the specification and drawings will be amended in the future to reflect this.

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The Applicants hereby request the examination of claims
1-11 and 13-18.

Respectfully requested,

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By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Byrne", is written over a horizontal line.

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